

Message Text

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PAGE 01 PEKING 01419 170332Z
ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ICA-11 COME-00 SP-02 CIAE-00 INR-10
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R 170155Z MAY 78
FM USLO PEKING
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0759
INFO AMCONSUL HONG KONG

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DEPT PASS USICA - FOR ICA/EA

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ETRD OEXC CH
SUBJ: PRC REACHES SATURATION POINT IN TOURISM

1. COLORADO FINE ARTS DELEGATION CURRENTLY VISITING THE PRC UNDER CHINA TRAVEL SERVICE AUSPICES WAS TOLD BY HOST-ESCORTS THAT THE PRC HAD EXPERIENCED A VAST INCREASE IN TOURISM BEYOND ITS CAPABILITY TO HANDLE EFFICIENTLY. THE SATURATION POINT HAVING BEEN REACHED MORE RAPIDLY THAN ANYONE HAD ANTICIPATED, CHINESE ORGANIZATIONS CONCERNED WITH TOURISM ARE SCALING BACK THEIR PLANS FOR THE NEXT CALENDAR YEAR.

2. APPARENTLY ALL COUNTRIES CURRENTLY SENDING TOURISTS TO

CHINA WILL BE AFFECTED. THE CHINESE SPECIFICALLY MENTIONED, HOWEVER, THAT PANAM WOULD BE PERMITTED AN INCREASE FROM 2000 TO 5000 PERSONS VISITING IN ITS GROUPS.

3. COMMENT: IT HAS BEEN NO SECRET FOR SOME TIME THAT THE CHINESE ARE ALREADY PRESSED TO THE LIMITS IN HANDLING THE FLOOD OF VISITORS. IN PEKING, AMERICAN DELEGATIONS HAVE RECENTLY BEEN PUT UP -- WITH APOLOGIES -- AT SECOND AND
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THIRD CLASS HOTELS, SOME OF THEM FAR REMOVED FROM THE CENTRAL PART OF PEKING. FOREIGNERS IN CANTON HAVE ALSO BEGUN TO COMPLAIN RECENTLY ABOUT THE NEAR-UNINTELLIGIBILITY OF ENGLISH INTERPRETING RENDERED BY RECENT GRADUATES OR BY PERSONS PRESSED INTO SERVICE AS INTERPRETERS.
WOODCOCK

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
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Disposition Action: RELEASED
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Disposition Case Number: n/a
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